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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

THE
SPARTAN BAND.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

OF

~ WILLIAM MANNING LOWE,
~ ALBERT P. FORSYTH,
~ ADLAI E. STEVENSON,
~ GILBERT DE LA MATYR,
~ EDWARD H. GILLETTE,
JAMES B. WEAVER,
~ GEORGE W. LADD,

~ THOMPSON H. MURCH,
~ NICHOLAS FORD,
~ DANIEL L. RUSSELL,
~ WILLIAM D. KELLEY,
HENDRICK B. WRIGHT,
SETH H. YOCUM,
~ GEORGE W. JONES,

~ BRADLEY BARLOW,

REPRESENTATIVES IN CONGRESS

OF THE

NATIONAL GREENBACK PARTY.

BY

T. A. BLAND, M. D.,

AUTHOR OF THE "LIFE OF BENJAMIN F. BUTLER," ETC.

WASHINGTON, D. C.:
RUFUS H. DABBY, PUBLISHER.
1879.

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BY T. A. BLAND, M. D.

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THE SPARTAN BAND.

WILLIAM MANNING LOWE, OF ALABAMA.

William Manning Lowe was born in Huntsville, on the 16th of January, 1842. He is of pure English blood on both sides, but his ancestry have lived in America for two hundred years, hence he is a native American. He was educated at Wesleyan University, graduating in 1858. He also graduated from the law department of Cumberland University, and was in the law class of the University of Virginia when the war began, in April, 1861. He opposed secession until his State was swept into it, and then he enlisted as a private, rising by talent and courage to the rank of lieutenant-colonel of cavalry.

Colonel Lowe belongs to a Democratic family. His father was an elector-at-large for Alabama in the interest of President Jackson. After the war the Colonel was honored by the Legislature with an election to the responsible office of solicitor for his judicial district, of which position he was deprived by the reconstruction acts of Congress. He was a member of the State Legislature in 1870, and of the constitutional convention in 1875. He is the author of the clause in the bill of rights in the constitution of Alabama, which declares that no educational or property qualification for suffrage or office shall ever be required.

He became a Greenback man some years ago, through a careful study of standard works on finance and political economy, and was confirmed in the new doctrine by the speeches of General Butler and other great statesmen. He supported

Greeley in 1872, and in 1876 he voted for Tilden under protest. In 1878 he refused to go into the Democratic congressional convention, announcing himself an independent candidate for Congress on the National platform. He was triumphantly elected over Mr. Garth, the regular Demo-

cratic nominee, at the close of one of the most active and vigorous campaigns ever known in this country. Colonel Lowe canvassed his native district thoroughly, defending his position and the doctrines of the National party in speeches of great ability and eloquence. He was opposed not only by Mr. Garth, the regular Democratic nominee, but by all the country politicians, the leading members of the bar, the majority of the clergy, and sixteen of the seventeen newspapers of the district; and so determined were the Bourbon leaders to defeat the young champion

of honest money, that Governor Houston, Senator Morgan, General Walker, ex-secretary of war of the Southern Confederacy, Lieutenant General Wheeler, and other distinguished orators, made speeches against him. His election was therefore a victory of marked significance. It proves that Colonel Lowe is a man of great ability, not only, but that when the doctrines of the National party are presented to the people of the South in a clear and forcible manner they accept them in such good faith that old party ties, stronger in the South than in any other section, are powerless to hold them.

Colonel Lowe is a man of fine physique, good personal presence, excellent social qualities, polished manners, and pleasing



address. He has a brain of almost Websterian proportions, which is admirably balanced and well stored with information upon all useful subjects. He is a logical, cultured, and eloquent speaker, humorous at times and ready at repartee always. He is one of the ablest men in the present Congress, and destined to rise to eminence, and leave his impress upon the legislation of the nation. It will perhaps interest our lady readers to know that he is a bachelor.

ALBERT P. FORSYTH, OF ILLINOIS,

is descended from high blooded, Scottish ancestry. His family, however, have been



in this country for four generations. He was born at New Richmond, Ohio, May 24, 1830. His father, who was a farmer, emigrated to Greene county, Indiana, in 1836, and opened a farm. Albert was educated to habits of industry and economy on this farm, and got the primary lessons in literature in the rude school house near by.

He subsequently attended a public school in Terre Haute, and also got two sessions at Asbury University.

In 1862 he enlisted a company for the 97th Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was chosen first lieutenant; in which position he served to the close of the war, passing through many hard-fought battles. He could have had promotion by leaving his own company; but declined so to do.

In 1865 he emigrated to Illinois, and located on the farm he still owns and occu-

pies—in the northwestern corner of Edgar county.

He has devoted himself solely to farming, and is a successful and substantial representative of his honorable profession.

His father was a Whig, and he graduated from that party into the Republican. He was a Thad. Stevens sort of Greenbacker in 1862, and has not faltered in his faith in the legitimacy of that greatest product of the Republican party—the “Rag Baby”—which saved the Union with one hand tied down.

He joined the Patrons of Husbandry in 1873, being made master of his Grange at once. In 1875 he was elected master of the State Grange of Illinois; which position tion he still holds.

He took an active part in what was known as the farmers’ movement of 1872, organized chiefly to oppose the monopoly of the railroad rings.

He began the public agitation of the financial question in 1874, by delivering a Greenback speech in Carlinville, Ill.; and in 1876 he supported Peter Cooper for President. Cooper got six votes in the Forsyth precinct, three of which were cast by Mr. F. and his family.

He has never sought office, nor aspired to public position; but in 1878 the National Greenback Congressional Convention of his district (the fifteenth) nominated him by acclamation. He accepted, and at once entered upon a most vigorous canvass. The district is composed of nine counties, all heretofore Democratic—the usual aggregate majority exceeding 5,000. Judge Decius, an old Democratic war-horse, was put forward by the Democratic convention, with every prospect of an easy and overwhelming victory. But Mr. Forsyth was not the sort of man that is easily defeated. He represented principles which are founded *in justice*, and only needed to be properly presented to the people to win their allegiance. He therefore made a thorough canvass of the district, speaking not only in each county, but in almost every school house; and when the polls were closed and the votes counted, it was found, to the dismay of the Democratic leaders, that they had met their Wellington in Forsyth the farmer, and their Waterloo in November, 1878. Their Napoleon (Judge Decius) was banished to the little inland village of Prairie City, where, in the shades of private life, he is mourning over the sad fate of his once dominant but now defeated and broken down old party, while Mr. Forsyth is crowned with congressional honors at Washington, and honestly and ably representing the true interests of his constituents and of the whole country.

Mr. Forsyth is a man of great character. He is a vigorous thinker, and logical and forcible speaker; and his opinions carry weight, because honestly held and earnestly presented. He is a stalwart National, of whom his party may well be proud, and in whom the people may trust their interests with safety.

ADLAI E. STEVENSON, OF ILLINOIS,

was born in Christian county, Kentucky, October 23, 1835, and educated at the Wesleyan University, Illinois, and Centre College, Kentucky. He located in Bloomington, Illinois, in 1852, and adopted the profession of law. He has now an honored place at the bar of his county and State,



and has established an enviable reputation for integrity and other manly qualities. In 1861 he was elected to the office of master of chancery, which position he filled with ability for a term of four years. He served as State's attorney from 1865 to 1868. In 1876, he was elected to Congress as a Democrat, and made an honorable record. The President selected him as one of the visitors to West Point Military Academy in 1877.

Mr. Stevenson has given special attention to the subject of finance for some years; and as a consequence he saw clearly that the panic of 1873, and the hard times which have paralyzed the industrial energies of the country, were legitimate fruits of the ruinous monopoly schemes of the old parties, adopted at the dictation of money-lenders; and the contraction of the currency, necessary to reach the resumption

of specie payments, also dictated by the public and private creditors of the country in their special interests. He therefore declared himself in favor of the policy of the National party, and made the race for Congress in 1878 as a National against Hon. J. F. Tipton, Republican—the Democrats chiefly supporting Stevenson. He was elected by a handsome majority; and, on taking his seat, united with the other National Congress-men in the formation of a congressional committee, and the nomination of a candidate for Speaker. He has made a good record so far, and his constituents, and the Nationals throughout the country, look upon him as one of their most able standard-bearers.



GILBERT DE LA MATYR, OF INDIANA, is a native American of French and English extraction. He was born in Chenango county, New York, July 8, 1825. He received an academic education, and has ever been a good student. He was put to the trade of his father, that of a carpenter, but entered the regular ministry in the Methodist Episcopal Church, at the age of 24, and made preaching his profession until his nomination for Congress in the summer of 1878, at which time he was pastor of Roberts Park church, in the city of Indianapolis. He has long been recognized by the laity and clergy of his denomination as one of the ablest and most successful preachers they have. Willamett University, some years ago, in recognition of his ability and scholarship, conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Divinity.

Dr. De La Matyr was a Republican from the organization of that party, and took an active part in politics. He was recognized as an able political speaker, and in both of the Lincoln campaigns he rendered efficient service to the party as an orator. He was an ardent and active Union man during the war, with some assistance raising and organizing two regiments and a battery, for which he received the thanks of the War Department.

He entered the service as chaplain of the 8th New York heavy artillery in 1862, and served till the close of the war, when he returned to the regular work of the ministry. In 1867 he was the Republican candidate for State prison inspector of New York, but was defeated, though he ran ahead of the party ticket.

In his ministerial work he has been honored by his bishop with appointments to the leading churches in various cities—Brooklyn, Omaha, Kansas City, Indianapolis, &c., and wherever he went he drew large congregations, and brought prosperity to the churches. His sermons were practical, and showed him in sympathy with the people. They were progressive, up with the times, full of live thought. He was one of the few preachers who studied up the cause of the hard times that began in 1873 and continued to grow worse to this day. He saw that contraction of the currency was bankrupting the business classes and starving the wage people. He became a Greenback man. He preached sermons on the rights of labor, and the duties of capital, and the sin of usury. These attracted attention, calling forth criticism from the bankers and monopoly press, and commendation from the people. The result of it all was that in 1878 the National party of the Indianapolis district nominated him for a seat in Congress. This district was decidedly Republican, hence the Democracy had no hope of success with one of their own men, whether hard or soft, so on assembling in convention they indorsed the nomination of Dr. De La Matyr, with the hope, doubtless, that he would go into the Democratic caucus and vote with the party in Congress out of gratitude for their support. They were mistaken in their man. Instead of being an office-seeking demagogue, Dr. De La Matyr is a statesman of principle, of conviction and conscience.

Dr. De La Matyr made a most thorough canvass of his district upon the issues dividing the National and Republican parties, and although his competitor, Hon. John Hannah, was on the fence between the two policies, with leanings toward the National side, yet the Doctor vanquished him on the stump and defeated him at the polls.

The Doctor has already made a record in Congress, which does him honor and reflects credit upon his constituents and his party.

He is a close student, an industrious worker, a bold and vigilant defender of his faith, and a forcible and eloquent congressional debater, hence he is feared and respected by his opponents, and regarded with confidence and pride by his political friends.

EDWARD HOOKER GILLETTE, OF IOWA,

is a native of Connecticut, having first seen the light in Bloomfield, in that State, October 1, 1840. He is a son of Hon. Francis



Gillette, the renowned anti-slavery champion, who became famous in the pro-slavery days by leading his party to defeat year after year, yet always coming off victorious; for true victory is in the courage that fights majorities in the cause of right. The old hero was elected to the United States Senate from Connecticut in 1854, as a Free-Soil candidate. He is now a staunch and intelligent leader of the National party in his State. Edward was educated in the public schools, and completed his course in the Agricultural College of New York in 1862. He emigrated to Des Moines, Iowa, in 1863, where he has since lived, following the triple trade of farmer, builder, and manufacturer.

He was a delegate to the first convention of the National party, which met at Indianapolis in 1876, and nominated Peter Cooper for President. In 1878 he was nom-

inated for a seat in the Forty-sixth Congress by the National party of his district, the 7th Iowa, the Democratic convention subsequently indorsing his nomination, and was elected over the Republican candidate by a handsome majority, after a vigorous canvass of the district.

Mr. Gillette is a man of decided ability, a close thinker, clear reasoner, and eloquent speaker. He has already made a good record in Congress by his speeches and his votes. He has won the confidence of the Nationals, the respect of the opposition parties, and the distinguished honor of being most violently denounced by the subsidized, hard-money press.



JAMES B. WEAVER, OF IOWA,

was born in Dayton, Ohio, June 12, 1833. His father emigrated to Iowa in 1842. He received a good common school education, and adopted the law as a profession, graduating in the Cincinnati Law School in 1856. He opened an office in Bloomfield, Iowa, at once, and soon took rank as a leading attorney and counselor. He was an original and active Republican, and when the war came he was among the first to enlist in the Union army. He was elected and commissioned 1st lieutenant of Company G, 2d Iowa Infantry, in April, 1861, he having enlisted as a private.

He was commissioned as major of the regiment on the 3d of October, 1862, and promoted to the colonelcy by the unanimous vote of the officers on the 12th of the same month, the colonel and lieutenant colonel having been killed at the battle of

Corinth; he was breveted brigadier-general of volunteers for gallant services on the field of battle, March 13, 1864, and served to the close of his term. In 1866 he was elected district attorney of the second judicial district of Iowa. He was appointed United States assessor of internal revenue for the first district of Iowa, January, 1867, which office he held for six years, and until it was abolished by law.

General Weaver was a Greenback man for years before he broke with the Republican party. But becoming convinced that a new party was a necessity, indeed the only hope of the country, he, in 1877, declared himself a National, and took the stump for Hon. D. P. Stubbs, National candidate for governor of Iowa. This produced such consternation in the Republican camp that a council was held, and ex-Attorney-General Cutts was put forward as the champion of the Republican doctrines on finance, with orders to discuss the question with General Weaver. They met in joint debate at Oskaloosa, Ottumwa, and Des Moines, the result being an overwhelming victory for General Weaver and thousands of converts to the Greenback doctrine.

General Weaver was nominated for Congress by the National convention of the sixth Iowa district, in May, 1878, and at the close of a thorough joint canvass with his opponent, Hon. E. S. Sampson, the former member, he was triumphantly elected to the Forty-sixth Congress by the handsome majority of 2,156 votes, overcoming a Republican majority of 4,000.

In Congress, General Weaver has made a noble record, which is before the country, and of which his friends and the National party may well be proud.

He is a man of first-class ability, and his powers of eloquence are of so high an order that when he speaks, the House and the galleries listen. He is one of the very few that can hold the undivided and respectful attention of the House of Congress, and one of the very few who never fails to come off victor in a running debate, which he never fails to do. General Weaver is a gentleman of the highest social qualities, as well as intellectual powers. Hence his popularity is very great wherever he is known.

GEORGE W. LADD, OF MAINE,

was born in Augusta, in that State, September 28, 1818, and received an academic education, but was prevented from taking a college course by the poverty of his family and the responsibility which rested upon him by the death of his father. He gave up his own ambitious plans and hopes



and became an apprentice to an apothecary, serving six years, and thoroughly mastering that important profession. At the age of twenty he located in the city of Bangor and opened an apothecary establishment, but subsequently retired from that business on account of ill health. He afterward engaged in the lumber trade, and has pursued that and the wholesale grocery and commission business ever since.

Politically, he invariably acted with the Whig party; was for eight years one of the executive committee of the State for that party. After the breaking up of the Whig party, he was one of the foremost in Maine in forming the Constitutional or Bell and Everett party. This party, be it remembered, exercised its large influence in attempting to prevent the great contest that commenced in 1861, but failed. He was a strong Union man, and a staunch supporter of the war for the Union. He first voted with the Democrats in the Geo. B. McClellan campaign in 1864. He continued to act with the Democracy, and was elected unanimously a delegate to the National Union convention, held at Philadelphia, August 11, 1866.

He was a candidate for Congress in 1858 on what was then called the Ohio or Pendleton platform, which the Democrats of the fourth district of Maine were generally in favor of. He was defeated, but continued through the succeeding years of bankers' rule to adhere to those fundamental doctrines

which have culminated in the formation of the National Greenback party. He acted with the Democratic party up to and including the Presidential contest of 1876. Early in the year 1877 he identified himself with the National Greenback party, was nominated by them as their candidate for Congress; was subsequently nominated to the same position by the Democratic party, and was elected to the Forty-sixth Congress, receiving 12,921 votes, against 10,095 for L. Powers, Republican.

He is a member of the Congressional Committee of the National party.

THOMPSON H. MURCH, OF MAINE.

is a native of Hampden, Penobscot county, in that State, and was born March 29, 1838. His education was limited to the common school course. He spent some of his early years on the sea, but abandoned the life of a sailor for that of a stone-cutter. He has followed his trade for 18 years in various capacities, as apprentice, journeyman, foreman and contractor, discharging his duty faithfully in each station.

In 1877 Mr. Murch organized the Granite Cutters' International Institute, and was unanimously chosen chief executive officer of it and editor of the official organ, the *Granite Cutters' International Journal*, a trade paper of 42 columns, which he continued to conduct with marked ability until January, 1879.

Mr. Murch became a Greenback man in 1876, and in July, 1878, he was nominated for Congress by the National Greenback



Labor party, and made the race against Hon. Eugene Hale, Republican, and Hon. J. H. Martin, Democrat, defeating them both by a plurality of 1,442 votes, a victory of great significance when all the facts are considered. Mr. Hale is one of the strongest men in the Republican party, who had carried the district two years before by a majority of about 3,000, and in this contest he had abundant intellectual and financial aid from his party, while Mr. Mureh had no help from outside, save that Colonel E. Daniels, of Washington, came voluntarily into his district, and without pay delivered some half-dozen speeches at different points, with powerful force and effect.

Mr. Mureh has been for many years an able and earnest labor reformer, and he is justly regarded as the most pronounced and earnest representative of the wage classes among the public men of this country, and they are justly proud of his record and his ability. He has a large head, hence superior talents, pleasant manners, good social qualities, and fine abilities as a conversationalist and public speaker, though exceptionally quiet and modest in character and habit.

On taking his seat in Congress he united with the other National Congressmen in the formation of a congressional committee of the National party, and was unanimously chosen chairman of that honorable body, which position he has filled with entire satisfaction to his associates and credit to himself. As a member of Congress he is quiet, firm, vigilant, and industrious.

NICHOLAS FORD, OF MISSOURI,

was born in county Wicklow, Ireland, July 23, 1830. He belongs to a good family, and was liberally educated. He is a true Irish gentleman, but not an aristocrat; on the contrary, he is a thorough democrat, not in a partisan but in the true sense. He worships at the altar of Liberty, and hates tyranny with his whole being. Like all true Irishmen, he is proud of the past heroic history of his country, and indignant at the wrongs she has suffered and the oppressions and indignities imposed upon her still by the selfish and arrogant Briton and his Tory allies, who disgrace the soil which gave them birth.

Though but a boy, Mr. Ford was an enthusiastic participant on the patriot side in the agitation, for it was not a revolution, nor even a rebellion in the full sense, of 1848. Like Mitchell and Meagher, and other brave spirits, he advocated revolution as the only remedy open to the Irish people, the only hope they could have of emancipation from tyrant rule and class oppression; and when this hope died he



sorrowfully bade adieu to the green isle of Erin, and sought an asylum in the far away but free land of Columbia.

He came to this country a youth of 18 summers, locating in the State of Missouri.

Mr. Ford has traveled extensively over the mountains and plains of the great West, but he has for the past 20 years regarded Missouri as his home. He resides in Rochester, but is and has been for some years engaged in merchandising in St. Joseph.

In politics Mr. Ford has always been an independent man. He is a great student of history, hence he is too broad-minded to make a good partisan of the narrow type. He believes in equal rights and universal suffrage, and can only be held in allegiance to a party while it represents and advocates these great cardinal doctrines. In 1856 he supported John C. Fremont for President, and in 1860 Abraham Lincoln was his standard-bearer.

On the opening of the civil war of 1861-'65, he proved his loyalty to the Union and the principles of freedom by enlisting as a private soldier in the Federal army, and fighting the battles of the Republic which had adopted him as a citizen and extended to him equal rights with her native-born sons. He entered the army from motives of patriotism and principle, hence he sought no official honors, but did his duty faithfully, as a member of that noble, heroic guild composed of the common soldiery. Nor has he ever sought civil office.

Mr. Ford was disgusted with the action of the old parties in demonetizing silver in

1873, and from that date he lost all confidence in their loyalty to the best interests of the people. He supported Peter Cooper for President in 1876. From that time forward he has labored earnestly and hopefully for the National party.

In 1878 he was elected to Congress, on the National Greenback ticket, over Mr. Ray, the Democratic nominee, who had been elected to the Forty-fifth Congress by over 4,000 majority.

The fact that Mr. Ford defeated Mr. Ray by the substantial majority of 1,300 votes proves not only that he is personally very popular, but that the principles of the National party have already secured a dominant hold upon the voters of his district.

DANIEL LINDSAY RUSSELL.

of North Carolina, was born in Brunswick co., of that State, on the 7th of August, 1845, and educated at the Bingham school, in Orange county, and also at the University of North Carolina.

On reaching manhood he adopted the law as a profession, and was admitted to the bar by the supreme court of the State in 1866.

He was a member of the State Legislature for the two sessions 1864 and 1865, and in 1868 he was elected to



the honorable position of judge of the superior court for the 4th judicial circuit. He filled this office for six years with distinguished ability. In 1871 he was a member of the State Constitutional Convention, and in 1876 he was again returned to the Legislature from the county of Brunswick. He was elected to the present Congress as a National, over Hon. A. M. Waddell, the Democratic nominee, by a handsome majority.

Judge Russell is a man of marked ability, and a sound financial reformer; and in the organization of

the House of Representatives of the Forty-sixth Congress he allied himself with the

National party, and became a member of the National Congressional Committee, and also supported the nominee of that party, Mr. Hendrick B. Wright, for Speaker of the House, and of Colonel Lee Crandall for the Clerk.



WILLIAM D. KELLEY.

of Pennsylvania was born in the city of Philadelphia, April 12, 1814, and received a good English education. He served as a proof-reader in a printing office for a while, when a young man, and then learned the jewelry business. He spent five years in Boston as a journeyman jeweler,

when he returned to his native city, and took up the study of the law. He acquired a good legal education, and also gave considerable attention to literature, both while a student and after he had entered upon the practice of his profession.

He achieved both fame and success as an attorney, and was twice elected prosecuting attorney for the city and county of Philadelphia, and he served ten years on the bench as judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia. A prominent gentleman formerly of that city said to the author: "Judge Kelley's lectures to prisoners (to which I have often listened) were among the best sermons I have ever heard!"

He was a delegate to the National Republican Convention which nominated Mr. Lincoln in 1860 and was one of his most able and active supporters in the State of Pennsylvania. He was elected to the Thirty-Seventh Congress in the fall of 1860, and has been returned as his own successor at each biennial election which has occurred since; hence he has been elected ten times, and is in his nineteenth year of continuous service in the House of Representatives—being the ranking member of that body; and he is one of the ablest, most industrious and conscientious.

Judge Kelley is one of the pioneers in the Greenback movement, and one of the most able, clear-headed and successful educators of public opinion on this great question of finance; and although he remained in the Republican party until the date of the opening of the present Congress, yet few men have done more toward creating that popular demand for a change of financial policy which has ultimated in

the organization of the National party; with which he is now fully identified, and of which he is one of the ablest, staunchest and most honorable leaders.

Judge Kelley is so widely and well known that no elaborate biography of him is required here.

HENDRICK B. WRIGHT, OF PENNSYLVANIA.

was born in 1808, at Plymouth, Luzerne county, Pennsylvania. He was educated at Wilkes Barre until fitted for college, and he graduated at Dickenson College in 1829.

Selecting the law as his profession, he prepared himself for practice by a rigid course of study, and was admitted to the bar in the year 1831.

Three years later he was appointed district attorney for Luzerne co. by George M. Dallas, then attorney-general and afterward Vice President. Mr. Wright was elected a member of the house of representatives of the State Legislature for three years in succession—1841, 1842 and 1843—and was speaker of the house during

his last term. He was sent as a delegate at large to the National Democratic Convention at Baltimore, in 1844, which nominated Polk and Dallas, and was honored with the position of chairman of the convention.

He has attended as a delegate each national convention of the Democratic party since; hence he has had an important part in the making of Presidents and in shaping the platforms of his party.

Mr. Wright has given the subject of labor reform great attention for some years; and like all men who look into the



question, he saw that society was rapidly dividing into two great classes, and that these classes are drifting constantly further and further apart—the rich growing richer and more arrogant and oppressive, and the poor still poorer and more dependent and humble. He espoused the cause of the industrial classes years ago, and he has stood by them firmly ever since. "A Treatise on the Labor Problem," written by him in 1871, is a very able and clear exposition of the subject, and worthy the careful study of legislators, as well as the people.

Mr. Wright was elected to the Forty-Fifth Congress as a Democrat, and acted with that party, save when its policy conflicted with the interests of labor. He was returned to the Forty-Sixth Congress as a National Greenbacker and Labor Reformer, receiving the support of the Greenback Democrats. On entering the present Congress he joined with the other National Congressmen in the formation of a congressional committee of the new party, and stood as the National candidate for Speaker of the House.

SETH HARTMAN YOCUM, OF PENNSYLVANIA.

was born August 2, 1831, on a farm in the the romantic region of the Catawissa. He is of sturdy Pennsylvania stock. His grandfather (Captain John Yocum) recruited and commanded a company of Pennsylvania troops during the War of Independence.

The family have been farmers from time

out of mind, and Seth was raised to that profession; but he being ambitious for a better education than was obtainable at the country schools, and of more intellectual associations than the vicinity of his native mountain town afforded, he went to New Berlin, at the age of 15, and apprenticed himself to the printing business in a newspaper office. He subsequently paid his own way through Dickinson College with money earned at the case as a journeyman printer, graduating in 1860. On leaving college, Mr. Yocum established the *Ashland Mountaineer*, a campaign journal in the interest of the Republican party, which did yeoman service for Lincoln during that ever remarkable campaign of 1860. His paper was so successful that he continued it until July, 1861, when he threw down the pen and took up the sword, abandoned the tripod and mounted a horse. He entered the army as a private in the 5th Pennsylvania Cavalry. He was promoted to a second lieutenancy in February, 1862, and rose to the rank of first lieutenant a few months later. He participated in all the battles of the Army of the Potomac up to September, 1864; when, his health having failed, he resigned and returned home.

He had begun the study of the law before going into the army, and on his return he finished his course, and was admitted to the bar in 1865.

He remained in the Republican party until 1877, though for some years he had been out of sympathy with its financial policy. His public advocacy of the principles of the National party dates from 1877, when he declared in favor of the Toledo platform.

He was nominated for a seat in the Forty-sixth Congress by the National Congressional Convention in 1878, and at the close of a most able and thorough canvass he was elected over ex-Governor Curtin, the Democratic nominee. This was a great victory, for the district was, up to two years before, overwhelmingly Democratic, his immediate predecessor having been elected, in 1876, by a majority of over 5,000.

Mr. Yocum's election was an extraordinary triumph for the National party, for the reason that he not only defeated the great war governor—overcoming an immense majority to do it—but also for the reason that his competitor claimed to be a sound Greenback man. It was not a contest between the hard-money policy of the old faction and the new financial doctrines of the new National party, but between the old Democratic party—which is all things to all sections, that it may win



votes—and the young National party—which is founded upon the principles of justice, and advocates the same views in all sections of the country—North, South, East and West.

Mr. Yocum had very little assistance in his canvass—a few speeches by Colonel Hughes and Hon. F. P. Dewees, of Pottsville, and Mr. Randall, of Illinois, being all the aid he received.

Mr. Yocum is a man of decided ability and undoubted integrity, a clear thinker and good speaker, fine social qualities and pleasing address. He is a modest and quiet, but a substantial and industrious, public servant, and a reliable one.

GEORGE W. JONES, OF TEXAS,

is of Welch blood. He was born in Marion county, Alabama, September 5, 1828, and was chiefly raised in Tipton county, Tennessee, from whence he removed to Bastrop, Texas, his present home, at the age of 20, in 1848.

His school education was limited to the very common schools of Tennessee, with a brief session at Bastrop Academy. He studied law at an early age, and has been very successful in that profession, though he took no college course even in that. Indeed, he is an excellent example of what we are wont to term self-made men, having got a good education in both literature and law without the aid of college professors.

In 1856 he was elected district attorney, and filled the office with marked ability.

He was an original Union man, supporting Douglas in 1860, and resisting secession with all the might of his influence and force of argument, maintaining that it was contrary to the genius of our institutional government, and acquiesced in it as a revolutionary measure when overwhelmed by the action of his State. He enlisted as a private in the 17th regiment of Texas Infantry, and was elected lieutenant-colonel on the organization of the regiment, and on the resignation of the colonel he was promoted to that office, and commanded the regiment until the close of the war, participating in the battles of Mansfield, Pleasant Hill, Milligan's Bend, and other bloody engagements. At the close of the war he returned to Bastrop and resumed the practice of his profession, and also engaged in farming, as before.

He was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1866, where he was a leader of the party which held that secession is revolutionary, hence dependent upon success for its vindication: and as the South failed, the ordinance of secession was a

nullity and the status of the States had not changed.

He was elected Lieutenant-Governor by a majority of over 40,000 on the Conservative or Union ticket, at the first election under the new constitution.

In 1876 he ran for Congress as an Independent, against Giddings, taking the position that all issues of principle between the Democratic and Republican parties had been settled, and that they were now stumbling-blocks to statesmanship. The financial question was not an issue, but during the canvass he was the guest of an intelligent Greenback man, who led him into a line of investigation which resulted in his complete conversion to the financial doctrines of the National party. He then told his friends that he should make the next race for Congress on that issue. He kept his word, and in 1878 defeated the regular Democratic nominee, Hon. John Hancock, at the close of a most able and thorough canvass of the district. During this campaign Governor Jones boldly advocated the abolition of all systems of banks of issue, and the abandonment of the impracticable and ruinous plan of tying the paper currency down to a coin basis, holding that the Government should issue all the currency direct from the Treasury, giving it every property and function of money by the "fiat of law." That it should not be redeemable in coin, but should itself be the standard money of the country, regulated as to volume by Congress according to the laws of business and the exigencies of the nation.



He held that the new National party is *the only national party*, and that the old parties are but sectional factions, fighting for office over issues long since dead.

On entering the present Congress, Governor Jones boldly and unequivocally united with the other National Congressmen in the organization of a congressional committee of the National party, and no injustice to the other 14 members of that committee is done, nor any depreciation of their merits intended, when I say that for vigor of thought, grasp of mind, clearness of conception, integrity of purpose, and courage of opinion, he has few equals and no superior among them, or in the House of Representatives. He has already made a record in Congress that stamps him a man of great ability, inflexible integrity, and exceptional independence. That record is before the country, and I shall not dwell upon it now.

Governor Jones is a fine specimen of the representative American. In personal appearance and social characteristics he bears a striking resemblance to Abraham Lincoln. He is simple-hearted, modest and kindly, yet strong and firm. He is, therefore, a popular and successful leader—a man eminently fitted for the propagation of new political ideas.

BRADLEY BARLOW, OF VERMONT.

is a native of the Green Mountain State, he having been born in the town of Fairfield, May 12, 1814. He was bred a farmer, and continued in that honorable profession for many years. In 1858 he located in St. Albans, where he engaged in banking and other large business pursuits, which he has followed up to the present time. He is the

president of the Vermont National Bank, and is also prominently connected with important railroad enterprises in the State. He has been elected to the State Legislature six times, and to the senate of the State twice. He has during his career served as a member of two constitutional conventions of the State, and was for a number of years treasurer of his county, all of which evidences his ability, integrity and popularity.

Mr. Barlow is an exceptional character, he being at the same time a national banker and a National Greenbacker. Surely, no

other evidence is needed of his breadth of views and honesty of purpose than that he should embrace and promote political doctrines which antagonize his personal interest in favor of the masses of the people of the country. If there were many more such bankers, the world would be the better for it.

Mr. Barlow was formerly a Republican, and so strong a hold has he upon the confidence of the Republicans of his district that in his canvass for Congress in 1878 he was successful in leading the great majority into the National Greenback party. He had

two competitors in the race, Mr. Grant and Mr. Waterman, both Democrats. His majority over both was over 3,000.

On taking his seat in the present Congress Mr. Barlow joined the other National Congressmen in the organization of a National congressional committee, and in distinctly drawing the line between the new National party and old sectional factions, styled by courtesy Democratic and Republican parties, by nominating and supporting a National candidate for Speaker.



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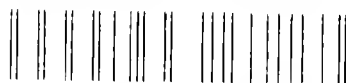
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